



MARRIAGE DISREGARD - If you marry for the first time after 10/01/99, you may have your new spouse's income and resources disregarded for six(6) months. This may allow you to continue receiving TANF benefits for six months.

TRANSITIONAL SERVICES - If you stop receiving TANF benefits because of increased earned income you may qualify for:



- ★ **Transitional Child Care** if you continue to work.
- ★ **Transitional Transportation** if you continue to work 25 hours or more per week at or above the federal minimum wage.
- ★ **Case Management Services** will continue to help you resolve any problems you may have on your job.
- ★ **Job Counseling Services** will continue to help you with job retention and job advancement.

NON-TANF SERVICES



SNAP - Your family can continue to receive SNAP benefits as long as you qualify for them after your TANF case closes.

WOMEN-INFANTS-CHILDREN (WIC) PROGRAM -

If you are pregnant, breast feeding, or have a child less than age 5, contact your local Health Department about WIC.



TANF benefits and TANF Work Program (TWP) services are provided through the Mississippi Department of Human Services, Division of Field Operations. Contact your local DHS county office about TWP services.

YOU WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR THESE SERVICES IF THE ONLY ELIGIBLE CHILD LEAVES THE HOME OR YOU MOVE OUT OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI.



TANF

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Work Program Services

A request for assistance in the State of Mississippi is a request for help in **FINDING** and **KEEPING** a job!

- ▶ You will never be free until you are economically free!
- ▶ The goal of the TANF Program is to end the dependence on public assistance by preparing you for a job, by helping you with job readiness training, job skills training, vocational training and other educational training programs. We can assist you in gaining access to vocational rehabilitation services/resources and finding and keeping a job.
- ▶ Remember, there are time limits on receiving public assistance. In order to support yourself and your family, you must become self-sufficient through employment.
- ▶ Your participation in the TANF Work Program (TWP) may allow you to take advantage of all the following services:



- ✓ Child Care
- ✓ Transportation Allowance
- ✓ Work-Related Expenses
- ✓ Income Disregards
- ✓ Earned Income Tax Credit

Transitional services are also available to help you after you find a job and your TANF case closes!

- ✓ Child Care
- ✓ Transportation Allowance
- ✓ Job Counseling Services
- ✓ Case Management Services

WORK ACTIVITIES - Once you have been approved for TANF and are referred to the TWP, your Case Manager will assess your employment skills and ability to get and keep a good job. Your "Employability Development Plan" will help determine the work activities and type of services you need to get ready for work and find employment.



Based on your individual needs, you will be required to participate in one or more of the following work activities. While you participate in your assigned work activities, you may continue to receive your TANF and SNAP benefits if you participate satisfactorily.

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| ☞ Employment | ☞ Job Readiness/Job Search |
| ☞ Work Experience | ☞ Job Skills Training |
| ☞ Community Service | ☞ Education Directly |
| ☞ High School or GED | Related to Employment |
| ☞ Vocational Education | |

As long as you participate satisfactorily, the following supportive services will be provided, if needed, to help you gain full-time employment as quickly as possible.



CHILD CARE - Once you select an approved child care provider of your choice, your Case Manager will send a referral to the Division of Early Childhood Care and Development (DECCD). DECCD will issue a certificate for your child(ren) and pay your provider.

TRANSPORTATION - MDHS will issue you a bus pass or provide a monthly work allowance. If you receive a monthly work allowance, you will be responsible for making your own transportation arrangements.



WORK RELATED EXPENSES* - To assist you in finding and keeping a job, MDHS will pay fees for:



Safety Equipment - Tools - Work Permits
Birth Certificates - Uniforms
GED Tests - Other Approved Items

*These items must be required by law or by the employer.



INCOME DISREGARDS - If you find full-time employment (35 hours per week), at or above the federal minimum wage, you may be eligible to have the earned income received from this employment totally disregarded from the TANF budget for up to six (6) months. You will be allowed to receive both the TANF benefits and your paycheck when

full-time employment is obtained under these conditions:

- ▶ within thirty (30) days after the initial approval for TANF benefits after July 1, 1997; or
- ▶ within thirty (30) days after the initial start date of the job readiness/job search work activity in TWP.

If you do not qualify to have your earned income disregarded for six months, you may be eligible to have your earned income disregarded for three (3) months if your earned income will cause your TANF case to close and you are working at least 25 hours per week at or above the federal minimum wage.

Any TANF benefits you receive while using the total earnings disregards will be counted toward your 60-month lifetime maximum benefit limit.

EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT - If you are in a low income family (with dependent children) and work part-time or full-time you can get more take-home pay through the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). The amount of money depends on your income and family size. **Your family does not have to owe any taxes to get the EITC.** There are two ways your family can get the extra EITC money:



- ➔ You can get all the extra EITC money when you file your federal tax return; or
- ➔ You can get part of the extra EITC money in advance with each paycheck and the rest when you file your tax return. Choosing this option can help you meet your family's weekly and monthly needs.